U.S. Department of Justice



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MEDIA RELEASE For Immediate Release October 22, 2003 Contact: Thomas P. Colantuono
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MAN GUILTY OF IDENTITY THEFT CRIMES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that **RONALD D. MOULTON**, of 139 Fairview Ave., Portsmouth NH, pleaded guilty yesterday afternoon to a six-count indictment for identity theft crimes.

The indictment to which Moulton, a former resident of South Carolina, pleaded guilty charges that he used the birth certificate of a Maine boy who died two days after his birth. By claiming the infant's birth certificate as his own, Moulton attempted to obtain a New Hampshire driver's license, a U.S. Passport, and a Social Security Number, all under an assumed identity. The offenses were all committed in and around Portsmouth in April of this year.

The charges and apprehension of Moulton resulted from Moulton's activities being brought to the attention of an Identity Theft and Fraud Working Group organized in the U.S. Attorney's office which brings together both federal and state law enforcement agencies to combat identity theft and fraud. An intensive and coordinated investigation by agents of the Social Security Administration, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the U.S. State Department's Diplomatic Security Service and the N.H. Department of Safety's Highway Patrol and Enforcement Bureau resulted in Moulton's apprehension.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono highly commended all agencies involved, stating "The vigilance of the Social Security Administration personnel who first detected the fraud, followed by the swift cooperation and hard work of state and federal law enforcement agencies involved, stands as a fine example of law enforcement work at its best. This should serve as a warning to anyone contemplating identity fraud that they will be detected, apprehended, and prosecuted".

Moulton faces possible maximum prison terms of between three and ten years and maximum fines of \$250,000. Moulton's sentencing hearing was set by U.S. District Chief Judge Paul Barbadoro for January 20, 2004, at 11:30 A.M. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Alfred Rubega